SETTY (Narasimharajpura Sub-Taluk), B. P. BASAPPA SETTY (Chikmagalur Taluk), SUBBANNA NAIK (Koppa TALUK), and M. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY (Chikmagalur Taluk).—

Q.—44. Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:—

(1) Have any of the District Boards in the State maintained an Engineering Establishment of their own?

(2) What is the total amount spent by each of the District Boards in the State on the maintenance and repairs of District Board roads and buildings by the Public Works Department and the amount paid by the Boards to that Department towards the cost of Establishment and Tools and Plant charges for the past five years?

(3) Is the Executive Engineer of the District responsible and accountable to the respective District Boards for every item of work done by his department for the District Boards?

(4) (*a*) Cannot the District Boards maintain a separate and adequate Engineering Establishment of their own out of the average charges paid to the Public Works Department for Establishment, and Tools and Plant by each of the Boards? and (*b*) would not such an arrangement be conducive to the better working and maintenance of both the District Fund and the State Fund roads by way of competition?

(5) Will the Government be pleased to allow all or any of the District Boards to make their own arrangements to maintain their independent Engineering Establishment as an experiment for a period of at least five years?

(6) (*a*) Are the Government aware that the Madras and Bombay Governments are contributing a quota of the cost of such Engineering Establishment maintained by the several District Boards in the two Presidencies?

(*b*) If so, what is the proportion of such cost contributed by Government to District Boards who may be permitted to employ their own Engineering staff?

GENERAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—44. (1) No.

(2)

District	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bangalore ..	67,099	56,874	90,808	80,076	1,03,246
Kolar ..	54,403	67,888	60,502	59,028	61,773
Tumkur ..	68,921	62,068	65,939	70,306	75,419
Mysore ..	84,743	1,06,418	1,20,032	1,74,910	1,53,273
Hassan ..	81,712	1,42,890	62,000	67,921	78,324
Shimoga ..	30,525	36,901	56,729	60,091	71,300
Kadur ..	67,862	69,286	48,129	45,818	44,197
Chitaldrug ..	38,764	52,360	41,181	60,523	92,035
Total ..	4,94,025	6,24,685	5,48.323	6,27,673	6,90,278
Establishment, etc., charges at 18 per cent.	88,925	1,12,443	91,968	1,12,981	1,12,225

(3) G. O. No. L. 4447-66—L.B. 99-22-1, dated 16th December 1922, defining relations between the Executive Engineer and the District Board is placed on the table (*vide* Appendix XI). Estimates of the District Fund works to be carried out by the Public Works Department are sent to the President of the District Board for countersignature. After the estimates are sanctioned by competent authority, copies of abstracts of the estimates are furnished to the President. A statement of monthly expenditure on each work should also be sent to the President. If the District Board pass any resolution on this monthly statement of expenditure, the Executive Engineer should either take action for carrying out the resolution or refer the matter to the Chief Engineer for orders. It will thus be seen that necessary safeguards have been provided for checking the expenditure incurred by the Excutive Engineer on District Board works by the District Boards concerned.

(4) (*a*) No. The establishment charges for the District Boards are at 18 per cent of the cost of works done, while those for Government works come to about 21 per cent. If adequate Engineering and Accounts Establishment is to be maintained by each District Board, their charge would exceed 21 per cent and they would lose the advantage of having part of the expenditure of the superior establishment shared in common with other districts as at present.

(*b*) No. The question of competition does not arise.

(5) The question has been considered by Government and it is found that the entertainment of a separate Engineering Establishment for the District Boards is neither necessary nor advisable at present.

(6) (*a*) and (*b*) No information is available.

Supplementary Questions and Answers..

Mr. Deva Gowda.—

Is it not possible for the District Board of either Bangalore or Mysore to maintain their own engineering Establishment ?

Second Member of Council —

This has been discussed many times before and the cost involved cannot be less than under the present arrangement.

Mr. Deva Gowda.—

Will not the work be done better if experimental Estalishment is given to the District ?

Second Member of Council.—

We shall enquire.

Mr. Deva Gowda.—

Has it come to the notice of Government that the work in the Districts is carried on very slowly ?

Second Member of Council.—

No.

Mr. Rama Rao.—

How many District Boards have applied for independent Engineering Establishment ?

Second Member of Council.—

We want notice.

Mr. Siddalingappa Setty.—

If the District Board sends up a resolution for entertaining their own Engineering Establishment, will it be favourably considered ?

Second Member of Council.—

Yes.

Mr. Krishnamurthiachar.—

What prevents the District Boards from having their own establishment ?

Second Member of Council.—

Excessive cost.

Mr. Krishnamurthiachar.—

Even now we are spending a large amount.

Second Member of Council.—

But you cannot get the services of Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and their establishments for the money you are able to spend.

Mr. Rameswarasastri.—

With reference to (5) (*b*), how do you say that there is no competition ?

Second Member of Council.—

I mean that there is no use by competition.

Mr. Krishnappa.—

Have not Local Bodies in British India got their-own Engineering Establishments ?

Second Member of Council.—

Yes. Their revenues are larger.

Mr. Krishnappa.—

Have Government received such schemes from the Bangalore and Mysore District Boards ?

Second Member of Council.—

We want notice.

Mr. Krishnappa.—

Will not efficiency increase if independent Engineering establishment is given to the District Boards ?

Second Member of Council.—

I do not think so.

Mr. Krishnappa.—

Are there no complaints now ?

Second Member of Council.—

There are some. They say complaints are due to insufficiency of funds.

Mr. Gopalachar.—

Are Government aware that District Fund Works are not properly carried out by the Public Works Department ?

Second Member of Council.—

No.

Mr. Gopalachar.—

Is there sufficient establishment under Government for carrying out the works of District Boards ?

Second Member of Council.—

Yes.

Mr. Veeranna Gowda.—

Do you know that the estimates of the District Boards are not sanctioned by the Public Works Department in time?

Second Member of Council.—

No. If complaints come, we shall investigate.

Mr. Razvi.—

Cannot District Boards import men from outside the State ?

Second Member of Council.—

It is more costly.

Mr. Razvi.—

Has any experiment been made ?

Second Member of Council.—

No.

Mr. Razvi.—

Can you give them a chance ?

Second Member of Council.—

There is no use. There is not sufficient money.

At the end of the Question time, Mr. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY said that Subject No. 140 was of utmost importance to Chikmaglur town and that he should be permitted to speak on it, even as a special case.

No. 140—Construction of a tank near Hirekolale for improving the source of water supply to Chikmagalur town and irrigation.

Mr. M. Siddalingappa Setty, Chikmagalur Taluk.

MR. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY represented that the existing water supply to Chikmagalur town was dependent on the Yegachi stream from which water was drawn by means of cast iron pipes for the supply to the town. Owing to the low flow of water in the stream, there was not at present a sufficient supply to the town itself, while little water could be spared for irrigation purposes. He therefore requested that Government might be pleased to order the construction of a tank near Hirekolale so that it might meet the demands of both the town and the raiyats.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER said that action could be more easily taken if the raiyats and the municipality were prepared to pay more contribution.

MR. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY did not see how the question of additional contribution could crop up at that stage more especially as the Dewan, during his recent tour in the taluk was quite satisfied as to the urgent need for the tank and promised favourable consideration. He added that people were suffering for want of water and that immediate action should be taken.

THE DEWAN promised to consider the question.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution No 1.

MR. G. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA moved the following resolution:—

"That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that for every 100 head of cattle 50 acres of gomal may be allotted."

In doing so he said that when the rules were at first framed, Government ordered that 30 acres of gomal should be allotted for every 100 head of cattle, and when the subject